

Working Group Summaries

Content Working Group

The Content Working Group focuses on identifying content already preserved, investigating guidelines for the selection of significant content, discovery of at-risk digital content or collections, and matching orphan content with NDSA partners who will acquire the content, preserve it, and provide access to it.

The Content Working Group's current scope of work is to:

- Develop or contribute to a registry of content already preserved by NDSA members.
- Develop a clearinghouse that will enable a variety of stakeholders (content producers, archives and libraries and other potential preservationists) to:
 - Determine what specific types of content or collections are at risk.
 - Identify at-risk content or collections for preservation.
 - Match orphan collections with appropriate trusted partner for access and preservation.

Standards and Practices Working Group

The Standards and Practices Working Group works to facilitate a community-wide understanding of the role and benefit of standards in digital preservation and how to use them effectively to ensure durable and usable collections.

The Group is also working to develop, recommend, promote, and disseminate information about effective methods for selecting, organizing, describing, managing, preserving and serving digital content, in collaboration with other individuals and organizations where appropriate.

Initial Standards and Practices Working Group work includes:

- Assessing and recommending target digital audio, video, still image, text and other types of formats for masters and access copies
- Shaping best practices for logically and efficiently organizing and describing digital objects in the national digital collection
- Determining migration protocols and schedules for the national digital collection

Infrastructure Working Group

The Infrastructure Working Group works to identify and share emerging practices around the development and maintenance of tools and systems for the curation, preservation, storage, hosting, migration, and similar activities supporting the long term preservation of digital content.

The group is currently surveying emerging practices around the use of large-scale and cloud storage platforms for digital preservation. Future projects may include:

- Promoting the collaborative development of free and open source tools, using sustainable software development processes and to create a structure for the support of the software over time
- Exploring the use of computer forensics tools for the appraisal, processing, and preservation of born-digital collections
- Encouraging communities with highly specialized needs (e.g., geospatial, datasets, observational data) to develop storage networks or access services that can serve the entire community

Innovation Working Group

By encouraging and sharing innovative methods of digital preservation practices and technologies, the Innovation Working group distributes, documents, and shares emerging concepts, while conducting and guiding research and development with engaged partners to explore new solutions and opportunities.

The innovation working group is currently engaged in two projects:

- Developing a series of digital preservation challenges to recognize and encourage important innovative work in digital preservation.
- Hosting a series of dialogs with individuals with a range of viewpoints or organizations and specialties outside NDSA, to bring a creative mix of ideas and experience into the conversation with the digital preservation community.

NDSA Outreach Working Group

The Outreach Working Group of the NDSA is focused on building relationships with stakeholder communities and preparing and sharing digital preservation information resources. These activities include: Identifying and assessing tools the NDSA community needs for communication; Identifying and promoting key digital preservation information resources; Defining opportunities for outreach within the NDSA and to the community beyond.

Initial Outreach Working Group activities include:



**NATIONAL DIGITAL
STEWARDSHIP ALLIANCE**

Identifying and promoting key digital preservation information resources:

- Establishing a clearinghouse of digital preservation information, or leveraging existing ones;
- Utilizing social media tools to spread the message of the NDSA.